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LEVEL *news*

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels

Volume 3, Number 2 **February 13, 1995**

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Water Level Bulletin & *Level News* Combine Efforts To Serve You Better

Beginning this month, the Great Lakes Water Level Communication Centre and the Canadian Hydrographic Service have combined our monthly mail-outs.

This allows us to serve more people and make the most efficient use of resources.

Previously, the Canadian Hydrographic Service of Fisheries and Oceans Canada mailed its Water Level Bulletin to one mailing list, while Environment Canada maintained another list of people who received both the Bulletin and its monthly newsletter, the *Level News*.

This amalgamated mailing has taken the Water Level Bulletin and *Level News* to some 3700 homes and offices in the Canadian portion of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin.

Readers may be added to the list by telephoning (905) 336-4581, or (905) 336-4844.

Boards Planning Public Meetings

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control, the International Lake Superior Board of Control, and the International Niagara Board of Control are planning to hold meetings with the public within the next few months.

These annual meetings allow citizens to learn more about the boards' operations, and to express their views.

Watch for details in the March mailing.

Wet Weather Raises Erie And Ontario

An unusually mild and wet beginning to 1995 helped push Lakes Erie and Ontario into their seasonal rises.

Preliminary figures show that Lake Erie received 164% of its average January precipitation, while Lake Ontario received 107%. Lake Superior was observed to have had only 60% of its January snow and rainfall, while Lakes Michigan-Huron had 95%.

January flood advisories were issued for inland rivers and streams in some areas. Because the lakes are at or near their lowest levels for the year, they have absorbed the additional water supplies without significant rises.

A continuation of unseasonably mild weather continued to delay ice formation on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Ice cover was negligible by the end of January. This was a near reversal of conditions on the Great Lakes at the same time last year, when extremely cold weather caused a near-record ice cover.

Lakes Superior and Ontario began January at their average water levels for the time of year. Lake Superior stayed near average. Lake Ontario took a slight dip early in the month, but later rose to end the month at 13 cm above average.

Lakes Michigan-Huron, St. Clair and Erie ended the month between 20 and 40 cm above their long-term averages. This represented a 10 cm rise in Lake Erie's level.

Two Open Houses For Niagara Area In March

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is working with the Great Lakes Water Level Communication Centre to offer open houses in Beamsville and Port Colborne on March 7 and 14.

Representatives from the CA and the Communication Centre will be on hand to explain the current lake level situation and how shoreline property owners can reduce their vulnerability to flooding and erosion.

The events will be held March 7 in the Lincoln Town Hall, Beamsville, and March 14 at the Port Colborne Public Library. Both sessions will run from 7 to 9 p.m. See you there!

part of Environment Canada's Green Lane™

Webmaster Important Notices and Disclaimers
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